

In the Claims:

Claims 1-109 (canceled)

Claim 110 (new): A Domain Name System (DNS) comprising:

at least one DNS server;

a resolver in operative communication with said at least one DNS server; and,

a root zone file including at least one resource record, said root zone file accessible by at least one of a resolver and DNS server, said at least one resource record adapted to resolve a DNS query including a domain name having a highest level domain (HLD) wherein said domain name can be processed by the DNS but can not be registered as part of the DNS.

Claim 111 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 110, wherein the DNS server is one of a single authoritative root server, alternative root server, and virtual inclusive root server.

Claim 112 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 110, wherein said resource record is a wildcard resource record.

Claim 113 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 110, wherein said resource record includes an Internet Protocol (IP) address.

Claim 114 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 113, wherein said HLD of said domain name is a top level domain alias (TLDA) and said IP address corresponds to a network resource adapted to determine which namespace provider of a plurality of namespace providers can process said domain name having said TLDA.

Claim 115 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 114, wherein said network resource is adapted to manage a virtual zero level domain (VZLD).

Claim 116 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 115, wherein said VZLD is an internet infrastructure domain.

Claim 117 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 116, wherein said internet infrastructure domain is

managed from a ".arpa" top level domain.

Claim 118 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 115, wherein said VZLD is a primary virtual zero level domain (PVZLD).

Claim 119 (new): The DNS, as set forth in claim 118, wherein said namespace provider is a naming authority to at least one secondary virtual zero level domain (SVZLD) and said network resource is adapted to redirect said domain name to said at least one SVZLD.

Claim 120 (new): A method for querying a Domain Name System (DNS) from a first domain name comprising:

generating a DNS query that can be processed by the DNS, said DNS query including the first domain name;

determining from said DNS query whether the first domain name is registered as part of the DNS;

determining whether the domain name is capable of being registered as part of the DNS when it is determined that the first domain name is not registered as part of the DNS;

providing an ability to process a domain name registration request corresponding to at least a portion of the first domain name when it is determined that the first domain name is capable of being registered as part of the DNS;

generating a second domain name corresponding to at least a portion of the first domain name when it is determined that the first domain name is not capable of being registered as part of the DNS; and,

generating a network resource request corresponding to said second domain name.

Claim 121 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 120, further including requesting a network resource corresponding to the first domain name when it is determined that the first domain name is registered as part of the DNS.

Claim 122 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 120, further including requesting a network resource from said second domain name.

Claim 123 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 122, further including determining that the network resource can not be accessed in response to requesting the network resource from said second domain name and providing an ability to process a fictitious domain name registration request corresponding to at least a portion of at least one of a first domain name and second domain name.

Claim 124 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 122, wherein said second domain name is a fictitious domain name (FDN) having a top level domain alias (TLDA) and said network resource is adapted to determine which namespace provider of a plurality of namespace providers can process said FDN having said TLDA.

Claim 125 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 124, wherein said network resource is adapted to manage a virtual zero level domain (VZLD).

Claim 126 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 125, wherein said VZLD is an internet infrastructure domain.

Claim 127 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 126, wherein said internet infrastructure domain is managed from a ".arpa" top level domain.

Claim 128 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 125, wherein said VZLD is a primary virtual zero level domain (PVZLD).

Claim 129 (new): The method, as set forth in claim 128, wherein said namespace provider is a naming authority to at least one secondary virtual zero level domain (SVZLD) and said network resource is adapted to redirect said domain name to said at least one SVZLD.

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